



## Information Circular: Market Vectors ETF Trust

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**To:** Head Traders, Technical Contacts, Compliance Officers, Heads of ETF Trading, Structured Products Traders

**From:** William Slattery, Associate Vice President, NASDAQ Listing Qualifications Department

**DATE:** January 7, 2008

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| <b>Exchange-Traded Fund</b>  | <b>Symbol</b> | <b>CUSIP #</b> |
|--|---------------|----------------|
| Market Vectors - Lehman Brothers AMT-Free Long Municipal Index ETF | MLN           | 57060U886      |

### Background Information on the Fund

The Market Vectors ETF Trust (the "Trust") is a management investment company registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"), consisting of several investment portfolios. This circular relates only to the Market Vectors - Lehman Brothers AMT-Free Long Municipal Index ETF (the "Fund"). The shares of the Fund are referred to herein as "Shares." Van Eck Associates Corporation (the "Adviser") is the investment adviser to the Fund.

The Fund's investment objective is to replicate as closely as possible, before fees and expenses, the price and yield performance of the Lehman Brothers AMT-Free Long Continuous Municipal Index (the "Index"). The Index is a market size weighted index comprised of publicly traded municipal bonds that cover the U.S. dollar denominated long term tax exempt bond market. It is a total return benchmark designed for high quality and tax-efficient investments. The Index has four main sectors: state and local general obligation bonds, revenue bonds, insured bonds, and pre-refunded bonds. The sectors of general obligation, insured and pre-refunded are further divided into sub-sectors based on the range of maturity. The revenue sector is divided into industry sectors that consist of electric, IDR/PCR, transportation, education, water & sewer, resource recovery, leasing and special tax.

To be included in the Index, bonds must be rated Baa3/BBB- or higher by at least two of the following ratings agencies: Moody's Investors Service, Inc., Standard & Poor's and Fitch Inc. If only two of the three agencies rate the security, the lower rating is used to determine index eligibility. If only one of the three agencies rates a security, the rating must be at least Baa3/BBB-. Potential Index constituents must have an outstanding par value of at least \$7 million and be issued as part of a transaction of at least \$75 million. The bonds must be fixed rate, have a dated-date within the last five years and have a nominal maturity of 17 or more years. The following types of bonds are excluded from the Index: bonds subject to the

alternative minimum tax, remarketed issues, taxable municipal bonds, floaters, and derivatives. The Index is calculated using a market value weighting methodology.

The Fund is not managed according to traditional methods of “active” investment management, which involve the buying and selling of securities based upon economic, financial and market analysis and investment judgment. Instead, the Fund, utilizing a “passive” or indexing investment approach, attempts to approximate the investment performance of the Index.

The Fund expects to use a sampling approach in seeking to achieve its objective. Sampling means that the Adviser uses quantitative analysis to select municipal bonds and other securities that represent a sample of securities in the Index in terms of key risk factors, performance attributes and other characteristics. The quantity of holdings in the Fund will be based on a number of factors, including asset size of the Fund. The Adviser generally expects the Fund to hold less than the total number of securities in the Index, but reserves the right to hold as many securities as it believes necessary to achieve the Fund’s investment objective.

In addition, from time to time, securities are added to or removed from the Index. The Fund may sell securities that are represented in the Index, or purchase securities that are not yet represented in the Index, in anticipation of their removal from or addition to the Index. Further, the Adviser may choose to overweight securities, purchase or sell securities not in the Index, or utilize various combinations of other available investment techniques, in seeking to track the Index.

Because of the passive investment management approach of the Fund, the portfolio turnover rate is expected to be under 30%, generally a lower turnover rate than for many other investment companies. Sales as a result of Long Index changes could result in the realization of short or long-term capital gains in the Fund resulting in tax liability for shareholders subject to U.S. federal income tax.

As described more fully in the Trust’s prospectus and Statement of Additional Information, the Fund will issue and redeem Shares on a continuous basis at their net asset value (“NAV”) only in large blocks of 50,000 Shares (each, a “Creation Unit”). Creation Units will be issued and redeemed principally in-kind for securities included in the underlying index. Except when aggregated in Creation Units, the Shares may not be redeemed with the Fund.

Net investment income is typically distributed to shareholders monthly while capital gains are typically distributed to shareholders at least annually.

Shares are held in book-entry form, which means that no Share certificates are issued. The Depository Trust Company or its nominee is the record owner of all outstanding Shares of the Funds and is recognized as the owner of all Shares for all purposes.

The NAV per Share for the Fund is computed by dividing the value of the net assets of the Fund (i.e., the value of its total assets less total liabilities) by the total number of Shares outstanding. Expenses and fees are accrued daily and taken into account for purposes of determining NAV. The NAV of each Fund is determined each business day after the close of trading (ordinarily 4:00 p.m., Eastern Time or “ET”) of the New York Stock Exchange. Any assets or liabilities denominated in currencies other than

the U.S. dollar are converted into U.S. dollars at the current market rates on the date of valuation as quoted by one or more sources.

The registration statement for the Fund describes the various fees and expenses for the Fund's Shares. For a more complete description of the Fund and the underlying Index, visit the Fund's website at [www.vaneck.com](http://www.vaneck.com).

## **Purchases and Redemptions in Creation Unit Size**

NASDAQ members are hereby informed that procedures for purchases and redemptions of Shares in Creation Unit Size are described in the Trust's prospectus and SAI, and that Shares are not individually redeemable but are redeemable only in Creation Unit Size aggregations or multiples thereof.

## **Principal Risks**

Interested persons are referred to the discussion in the prospectus for the Fund of the principal risks of an investment in the Fund. These include tracking error risk (factors causing the Fund's performance to not match the performance of the underlying index), market trading risk (for example, trading halts, trading above or below net asset value), investment style risk, sector risk, investment approach risk, industry concentration risk, non-diversification risk, issuer-specific risk, management risk, municipal securities risk, credit risk, interest rate risk and call risk.

## **Exchange Rules Applicable to Trading in the Shares**

Trading in the Shares on NASDAQ is on a UTP basis and is subject to [NASDAQ equity trading rules](#).

## **Trading Hours**

The values of the Index underlying the Shares are disseminated to data vendors every 15 seconds. The Shares will trade on NASDAQ between 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. ET, unless otherwise indicated. Additional risks may exist with respect to trading the Fund during Nasdaq's Pre-Market and Post-Market sessions, when the underlying index's value may not be disseminated.

## **Suitability**

Trading in the Shares on NASDAQ will be subject to the provisions of [NASDAQ Rule 2310](#). Members recommending transactions in the Shares to customers should make a determination that the recommendation is suitable for the customer. In addition, members must possess sufficient information to satisfy the "know your customer" obligation that is embedded in the NASDAQ Conduct Rules.

Members also should review [NASD Notice to Members 03-71](#) for guidance on trading these products. The Notice reminds members of their obligations to: (1) conduct adequate due diligence to understand the features of the product; (2) perform a reasonable-basis suitability analysis; (3) perform customer-specific suitability analysis in connection with any recommended transactions; (4) provide a balanced disclosure of both the risks and rewards associated with the particular product, especially when selling to retail investors; (5) implement appropriate internal

controls; and (6) train registered persons regarding the features, risk and suitability of these products.

## **Trading Halts**

NASDAQ will halt trading in the Shares of the Fund in accordance with [NASDAQ Rule 4120](#). The grounds for a halt under NASDAQ Rule 4120 include a halt by the primary market because the intraday indicative value of the Fund and/or the value of its underlying index are not being disseminated as required, or a halt for other regulatory reasons. In addition, NASDAQ will also stop trading the Shares of the Fund if the primary market de-lists the Fund.

## **Delivery of a Prospectus**

NASDAQ members should be mindful of applicable prospectus delivery requirements under the federal securities laws with respect to transactions in the Fund.

Prospectuses may be obtained through the [Fund's website](#). The prospectus for the Fund does not contain all of the information set forth in the Fund's registration statement (including the exhibits to the registration statement), parts of which have been omitted in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"). For further information about the Fund, please refer to the registration statement.

In the event that the Fund relies upon an order by the SEC exempting the Shares from certain prospectus delivery requirements under Section 24(d) of the 1940 Act and in the future make available a written product description, [NASDAQ Rule 4420\(j\)\(2\)](#) requires that NASDAQ members provide to all purchasers of Shares a written description of the terms and characteristics of such securities, in a form prepared by the Trust for the Fund, no later than the time a confirmation of the first transaction in the Shares is delivered to such purchaser. In addition, NASDAQ members shall include such a written description with any sales material relating to the Shares that is provided to customers or the public. Any other written materials provided by a NASDAQ member to customers or the public making specific reference to the Shares as an investment vehicle must include a statement in substantially the following form: "A circular describing the terms and characteristics of the Shares of the Fund has been prepared by the Trust and is available from your broker. It is recommended that you obtain and review such circular before purchasing Shares of the Fund. In addition, upon request you may obtain from your broker a prospectus for Shares of the Fund."

A NASDAQ member carrying an omnibus account for a non-member broker-dealer is required to inform such non-member that execution of an order to purchase Shares for such omnibus account will be deemed to constitute agreement by the non-member to make such written description available to its customers on the same terms as are directly applicable to NASDAQ member under this rule.

Upon request of a customer, NASDAQ members also shall provide a copy of the Prospectus.

## **Exemptive, Interpretive and No-Action Relief Under Federal Securities Regulations**

The SEC has issued exemptive, interpretive or no-action relief from certain provisions of rules under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act") regarding trading in the above mentioned exchange-traded Fund.

### **Regulation M Exemptions**

Generally, Rules 101 and 102 of Regulation M prohibit any "distribution participant" and its "affiliated purchasers" from bidding for, purchasing, or attempting to induce any person to bid for or purchase any security which is the subject of a distribution until after the applicable restricted period, except as specifically permitted in Regulation M. The provisions of the Rules apply to underwriters, prospective underwriters, brokers, dealers, and other persons who have agreed to participate or are participating in a distribution of securities.

The SEC has granted an exemption from Rule 101 under Regulation M to permit persons participating in a distribution of shares of the above-mentioned Fund to engage in secondary market transactions in such shares during their participation in such a distribution. In addition, the SEC has granted relief under Regulation M to permit persons who may be deemed to be participating in the distribution of Shares of the above-mentioned Fund (i) to purchase securities for the purpose of purchasing Creation Unit Aggregations of Fund Shares and (ii) to tender securities for redemption in Creation Unit Aggregations. Further, the SEC has clarified that the tender of Fund Shares to the Fund for redemption does not constitute a bid for or purchase of any of the Fund's securities during the restricted period of Rule 101. The SEC has also granted an exemption pursuant to paragraph (e) of Rule 102 under Regulation M to allow the redemption of Fund Shares in Creation Unit Aggregations during the continuous offering of Shares.

### **Customer Confirmations for Creation or Redemption of Fund Shares (SEC Rule 10b-10)**

Broker-dealers who handle purchases or redemptions of Fund Shares in Creation Unit size for customers will be permitted to provide such customers with a statement of the number of Creation Unit Aggregations created or redeemed without providing a statement of the identity, number and price of shares of the individual securities tendered to the Fund for purposes of purchasing Creation Unit Aggregations ("Deposit Securities") or the identity, number and price of shares to be delivered by the Trust for the Fund to the redeeming holder ("Redemption Securities"). The composition of the securities required to be tendered to the Fund for creation purposes and of the securities to be delivered on redemption will be disseminated each business day and will be applicable to requests for creations or redemption, as the case may be, on that day. This exemptive relief under Rule 10b-10 with respect to creations and redemptions is subject to the following conditions:

- 1) Confirmations to customers engaging in creations or redemptions must state that all information required by Rule 10b-10 will be provided upon request;

- 2) Any such request by a customer for information required by Rule 10b-10 will be filed in a timely manner, in accordance with Rule 10b-10(c);
- 3) Except for the identity, number and price of shares of the component securities of the Deposit Securities and Redemption Securities, as described above, confirmations to customers must disclose all other information required by Rule 10b-10(a).

### **SEC Rule 14e-5**

An exemption from Rule 14e-5 has been granted to permit any person acting as a dealer-manager of a tender offer for a component security of the Fund (1) to redeem Fund Shares in Creation Unit Aggregations from the issuer that may include a security subject to such tender offer and (2) to purchase Fund Shares during such tender offer. In addition, a no-action position has been taken under Rule 14e-5 if a broker-dealer acting as a dealer-manager of a tender offer for a security of the Fund purchases or arranges to purchase such securities in the secondary market for the purpose of tendering such securities to purchase one or more Creation Unit Aggregations of Shares, if made in conformance with the following:

- 1) such bids or purchases are effected in the ordinary course of business, in connection with a basket of 20 or more securities in which any security that is the subject of a distribution, or any reference security, does not comprise more than 5% of the value of the basket purchased; or
- 2) purchases are effected as adjustments to such basket in the ordinary course of business as a result of a change in the composition of the underlying index; and
- 3) such bids or purchases are not effected for the purpose of facilitating such tender offer.

### **Section 11(d)(1); SEC Rules 11d1-1 and 11d1-2**

Section 11(d)(1) of the Act generally prohibits a person who is both a broker and a dealer from effecting any transaction in which the broker-dealer extends credit to a customer on any security which was part of a new issue in the distribution of which he participated as a member of a selling syndicate or group within thirty days prior to such transaction. The SEC has clarified that Section 11(d)(1) does not apply to broker-dealers that are not Authorized Participants (and, therefore, do not create Creation Unit Aggregations) that engage in both proprietary and customer transactions in Shares of the Fund in the secondary market, and for broker-dealer Authorized Participants that engage in creations of Creation Unit Aggregations. This relief is subject to specific conditions, including the condition that such broker-dealer (whether or not an Authorized Participant) does not, directly or indirectly, receive from the fund complex any payment, compensation or other economic incentive to promote or sell the Shares of the Fund to persons outside the fund complex, other than non-cash compensation permitted under NASD Rule 2830(l)(5)(A), (B) or (C). (See [letter](#) from Catherine McGuire, Chief Counsel, SEC Division of Market Regulation, to Securities Industry Association, Derivative Products Committee, dated November 21, 2005.) The SEC also has taken a no-action position under Section 11(d)(1) of the Act that broker-dealers may treat Shares of the Fund, for purposes of Rule 11d1-2, as "securities issued by a registered open-end investment company as defined in the Investment Company Act" and thereby extend credit or maintain or

arrange for the extension or maintenance of credit on Shares that have been owned by the persons to whom credit is provided for more than 30 days, in reliance on the exemption contained in the rule.

### **SEC Rule 15c1-5 and 15c1-6**

The SEC has taken a no-action position with respect to Rule 15c1-5 and Rule 15c1-6 as to the required disclosure of control by a broker or dealer with respect to creations and redemptions of Fund Shares and secondary market transactions therein. (See [letter](#) from Catherine McGuire, Chief Counsel, SEC Division of Market Regulation, to Securities Industry Association, Derivative Products Committee, dated November 21, 2005.)

**This Information Circular is not a statutory prospectus. NASDAQ members should consult the Fund's prospectus and/or the [Fund's website](#) for relevant information.**

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Inquiries regarding this Information Circular should be directed to:

- [Will Slattery](#), NASDAQ Listing Qualifications, at 301.978.8088
- [NASDAQ Market Sales](#) at 800.846.0477